

in 1890 was succeeded by M. Snellen and he in turn by Prof. C. H. Wind as director in chief. In 1897 the institute was removed from Utrecht to its suburb De Bilt. According to a late number of *Minerva* the recent organization was as follows:

Director in chief—C. H. Wind.

Section directors—Dr. H. Ekama, Dr. J. P. Van der Stok.

Assistant directors—E. B. J. Kluit, Dr. C. M. A. Hartman.

Secretary—E. L. Olland.

Director of the branch in Amsterdam—L. Roosenburg.

Director of the branch in Rotterdam—A. E. Arkenbout-Schokker.

Under date of February 13, 1905, Prof. C. H. Wind announced that he had resigned his position as director in chief of the Royal Meteorological Institute of Holland, and that by a royal decree of February 13, 1905, Dr. E. van Everdingen is provisionally charged with the general management of the institute.

In October, 1905, Dr. Maurits Snellen announced that he should resign as director of the section in terrestrial magnetism and seismology of the Royal Meteorological Institute of the Netherlands, and that his future address will be Apeldoorn, Netherlands.

A LARGE METEOR.

A very large meteor is reported to have fallen in the water of Duck Thoroughfare near Atlantic City on the coast of New Jersey on October 3, 1905. Two fishermen stoutly maintain that the meteor fell within twenty feet of their boat, and it is said that many have been fishing for it with oyster tongs. On the other hand, this same meteor was seen rushing rapidly above many portions of Long Island during the night of the 3d-4th. The idea that it fell into the water on the coast of New Jersey is most likely to be an entire mistake. The Editor has known of cases in which persons ignorant of astronomy, and suddenly frightened by the appearance of a bright meteor overhead, have actually dodged or run to shelter, thinking it was coming straight for them; but the fact is that such objects are many miles away, and most frequently burn up entirely or split into many small fragments before they reach the earth; in fact, in many cases they pass entirely through the atmosphere and out into space.

It is very desirable that the public in general should endeavor to assist in the progress of our knowledge of meteors. Anyone may do this by merely recording and sending to the Editor a careful note as to the location of the apparent path of such a bright meteor. One has merely to say that it started at a certain altitude and azimuth, or at a certain bearing of the compass, and disappeared at a certain other bearing and apparent angular altitude; or one may say it started near a certain star, passed by certain other stars, and disappeared, always giving the time as accurately as possible. In some cases a most accurate record has been made by setting up stakes on the ground or making marks on the floor to show just where the shadow of a building or window was thrown. Do this promptly and let some surveyor measure the bearings for you. Observations of such bearings and altitudes made at different stations give us the basis for computing with much exactness the true distance and motion of the meteor. Perhaps 100 illustrations of such calculations may be found in the literature of science. Several such will be found in past numbers of the *MONTHLY WEATHER REVIEW*. See Volume XXII, page 128; Volume XXV, pages 56, 57, and 261.

Mr. William A. Carlson, of Victoria, Ill., writing under date of October 10, 1905, says:

I wish to call attention to a large meteor which I saw fall on September 26, 1905. It came from the southwest and traveled at an angle of 60° from where I stood. It traveled thence to the northeast until it came directly east of me and then it started to fall; when it had fallen to an

angle of 20° it exploded into three pieces; one piece fell to the south and one piece fell to the north, but the last and largest piece fell straight down. The meteor was much larger than the full moon.

WEATHER BUREAU MEN AS EDUCATORS.

Prof. A. G. McAdie, official in charge, San Francisco, Cal., reports that he attended the Thirty-first Annual Convention of Fruit Growers at Santa Rosa, Cal., and read a paper upon the influence of weather on crops, at the evening session of December 7, before an audience of about 300 fruit growers and representatives of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, the State University, the State Agricultural Society, and other bodies.

Mr. C. W. Ling, Assistant Observer, Havre, Mont., reports that on November 21, 1905, by invitation of the county superintendent of schools, he addressed the Teachers Institute of Chouteau County, Mont., on the work of the Weather Bureau.

By invitation of the official in charge many of the teachers visited the Weather Bureau office, and the meteorological instruments were explained to them.

Mr. I. M. Cline, District Forecaster, New Orleans, La., reports that Mr. H. F. Alcimore, First Assistant at that station, gave a lecture in the office on November 14, to a class of boys from the Live Oak Public School. The lecture lasted about one hour and included an explanation of the meteorological instruments used by the Weather Bureau and an account of the weather map and its use in forecasting.

Mr. J. P. Slaughter, Observer, Pueblo, Colo., reports that on October 24, 4 teachers and 31 pupils of the Fountain School of that city, visited the office and had the instruments, the weather map, and methods of forecasting explained to them.

Dr. O. L. Fassig, Research Director, reports that on December 4, 1905, he delivered a lecture on the climate and weather of Baltimore, one of a series of twenty lectures for the teachers of the Baltimore public schools, on the natural history of the environs of Baltimore. The course is being given under the auspices of the Woman's College of Baltimore. There were present about 300 subscribers to the course.

Mr. M. L. Fuller, Assistant Observer in charge, Charles City, Iowa, reports that the physical geography classes of the high school and of Charles City College, about 45 students in all, have visited the office in three sections, during the month of November. Each section received a 45 minute explanation of the station equipment and work.

Mr. Fuller has made an arrangement to give addresses on elementary meteorology and the work of the Weather Bureau before both the local high school and Charles City College.

Mr. N. B. Conger, Inspector and Marine Agent, Detroit, Mich., addressed the Detroit Engineering Society, by invitation, on the evening of November 24, 1905. The subject was the Weather Bureau and its work. Special attention was given to the data furnished by the Weather Bureau to engineers, the compilation of temperature and precipitation data, and the manner of issuing and distributing special warnings.

Mr. W. P. Stewart, Assistant Observer in charge, Escanaba, Mich., reports that the class in physics of the Escanaba High School visited the office in two sections on December 11 and 12 and were instructed in the construction and use of barometers, and the distribution of atmospheric pressure, including the formation and movement of areas of high and low pressure and their relation to the weather.